IN THE CLAIMS:

The following is a complete listing of the claims, and replaces all earlier version and listings.

1. (currently amended) A data processing apparatus comprising:

an instruction input unit, arranged to input a manual instruction by the operator;

a process unit, arranged to execute a predetermined process based on the input by said instruction input unit;

a connection unit, arranged to connect with an external device;

a storage unit, arranged to store message data received from the external device through said connection unit;

a display unit, arranged to display the message data stored in said storage unit;

a discrimination unit, arranged to discriminate whether ~~a predetermined period of time has elapsed since a last input of an instruction by the operator~~ or not the manual instruction by the operator is not input for a predetermined period of time; and

a control unit, arranged to control said display unit to ~~display information based on the message data received from the external device through said connection unit and stored in said storage unit, in case said discrimination unit discriminates that the predetermined period of time has elapsed since the last input of an instruction~~ start displaying information based on the message data stored in said storage unit, in response to the discriminated result provided by said discrimination unit that no manual instruction by the operator has been input for the predetermined period of time.

2. (previously presented) A data processing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said display unit displays a display image frame different for each process function executed by said process unit, and said control unit controls the display based on the message data received from the external device through said connection unit and stored in said storage unit, according to the display image frame for which the information is intended.

3. (previously presented) A data processing apparatus according to claim 1 or 2, wherein said display unit is adapted to display a display image frame of information based on the message data received from the external device through said connection unit and stored in said storage unit, and an operation image frame for input by said instruction input unit.

4. (previously presented) A data processing apparatus according to claim 3, wherein said display unit is adapted to display first display information to be displayed in place for the operation image frame for input by said instruction input unit, based on the message data received from the external device through said connection unit and stored in said storage unit, and second display information to be displayed in the operation image frame.

5. (previously presented) A data processing apparatus according to claims 1 or 2, wherein said control unit receives, by MIB (management information base), message data for the information to be displayed by said display unit and stored in said

storage unit, and executes reception from the external device through said connection unit according to SNMP (simple network management protocol).

6. (previously presented) A data processing apparatus according to claims 1 or 2, wherein said control unit receives, as electronic mail data, message data of the information to be displayed by said display unit, from the external device through said connection unit and stored in said storage unit.

7. (previously presented) A data processing apparatus according to claim 6, wherein said control unit receives message data of the information to be displayed by said display unit and stored in said storage unit, according to SMTP (simple mail transfer protocol)/POP (post office protocol).

8. (previously presented) A data processing apparatus according to claims 1 or 2, wherein said display unit is capable of displaying information of plural display colors, and said control unit is adapted to vary the display color according to the priority contained in the message data received from the external device through said connection unit and stored in said storage unit.

9. (previously presented) A data processing apparatus according to claim 8, wherein said storage unit comprises an accumulation unit for storing plural files, wherein said control unit is adapted to cause said display unit to display information indicating the file accumulated in said accumulation unit, with different display color according to the attribute of the file.

10. to 14. (cancelled)

15. (currently amended) A control method for a data processing apparatus capable of executing a predetermined process based on a manual instruction by the operator and displaying various information on a display device, comprising:

a reception step of receiving message data transmitted from an external device;

a storing step of storing the message data received from the external device;

a discrimination step of discriminating ~~a predetermined period of time has elapsed since a last input of an instruction by the operator~~ or not any manual instruction by the operator is not input for a predetermined period of time; and

a control step of control ~~said~~ the display device to ~~display information based on the message data received in said reception step and stored in said storing step, in case said discrimination step discriminates that the predetermined period of time has elapsed since said the last input of an instruction by the operator~~ start displaying information based on the message data stored in the storage unit, in response to the discriminated result provided by performance of said discrimination step that no manual instruction by the operator has been input for the predetermined period of time.

16. and 17. (cancelled)

18. (currently amended) A computer readable memory medium storing a program for controlling a data processing apparatus capable of executing a predetermined

process based on a manual instruction by the operator and displaying various information on a display device, the program comprising:

a reception step of receiving message data transmitted from an external device;

a storing step of storing the message data received from the external device;

a discrimination step of discriminating ~~a predetermined period of time has elapsed since a last input of an instruction by the operator~~ or not any manual instruction by the operator is not input for a predetermined period of time; and

a control step of control ~~said~~ the display device to ~~display information based on the message data received in said reception step and stored in said storing step, in case said discrimination step discriminates that the predetermined period of time has elapsed since said the last input of an instruction by the operator~~ start displaying information based on the message data stored in the storage unit, in response to the discriminated result provided by performance of said discrimination step that no manual instruction by the operator has been input for the predetermined period of time.

19. and 20. (cancelled)